



Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1 - 48 (cancelled).

Claim 49 (new): An orally administrable antimicrobial composition for suppressing the growth of enteric pathogens in the gut of livestock, the antimicrobial composition comprising:

- (a) a cell wall lysing substance or its salt;
- (b) at least one of dried egg powder and albumen; and
- (c) a sequestering agent.

Claim 50 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 49, wherein the enteric pathogens include members of the following families of bacteria: *Clostridium perfringens*, *Escherichia coli*, *Salmonella Typhimurium* and *Salmonella Mbandaka*.

Claim 51 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 49, wherein the cell wall lysing substance or its salt is lysozyme.

Claim 52 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 49, wherein the antimicrobial composition includes both dried egg powder and albumen.

Claim 53 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 52, wherein the sequestering agent is an organic acid.

Claim 54 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 53, wherein the sequestering agent is a metal-chelator.

Claim 55 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 53, wherein the sequestering agent is selected from the group consisting of: (a) disodium ethylenediamine tetraacetate (EDTA); (b) citric acid; (c) chitosan.

Claim 56 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 49 further includes a lantibiotic.

Claim 57 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 56, wherein the lantibiotic is nisin.

Claim 58 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 56, wherein the ratio of the cell wall lysing substance or its salt, the at least one of dried egg powder and albumen, the sequestering agent and the lantibiotic, is 50:150:50:20 by weight.

Claim 59 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 49, wherein the antimicrobial composition is in powdered form.

Claim 60 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 49, wherein the antimicrobial composition is in aqueous solution form.

Claim 61 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 60, wherein the antimicrobial composition is water-soluble to allow the antimicrobial composition to be mixed with drinking water for administration to the livestock.

Claim 62 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 49, wherein the antimicrobial composition is a feed additive.

Claim 63 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 49, wherein the ratio of the cell wall lysing substance or its salt, the at least one of dried egg powder and albumen and the sequestering agent, is 2:5:3 by weight.

Claim 64 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 49 further including dried egg powder, the dried egg powder being capable of suppressing additional microbes in the livestock gut.

Claim 65 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 64 wherein the additional microbes include molds and viruses.

Claim 66 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 49 wherein the antimicrobial composition includes dried egg powder and the dried egg powder is capable of suppressing additional enzymes in the livestock gut.

Claim 67 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 66 wherein the additional enzymes include proteases and lipases.

Claim 68 (new): An orally administrable antimicrobial composition for treating gastrointestinal infections in livestock, the antimicrobial composition comprising:

- (a) a cell wall lysing substance or its salt;
- (b) at least one of dried egg powder and albumen;
- (c) a sequestering agent; and
- (d) a lantibiotic.

Claim 69 (new): The orally administrable antimicrobial composition according to claim 68 wherein the gastrointestinal infections include necrotic enteritis, *Clostridium perfringens* enteritis and diarrheal disease.